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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany/Russian Zone

SUBJECT Zentral-Werk, Bleicherode: Deportations and  
Dismantling Operations

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CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the  
letter of 16 October 1978 from the  
Director of Central Intelligence to the  
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- 25X1X6 1. The Zentral-Werk (ZW), Bleicherode, includes Institute Rabe, Werk II Nordhausen, Werk III Kleinbodungen, Werk Lehesten, Werk Sommerda, Elektro-Stanza(sic) Peenemünde, Werk Sondershausen, and Meldekopf Berlin. Its largest provider of electrical apparatus is the Deutsche Telephonwerke (DTW), Bleicherode (provides Messina Geräte).
2. Personnel of the ZW includes:  
Colonel Gudenikow - Russian head.  
Major Cherdok - Technical chief (his civilian profession is certified engineer; of German descent, studied in Germany, speaks perfect German).  
A staff of Russian officers who call themselves the TSK (Technische Sonderkommission or Special Technical Commission).  
The headquarters of ZW is in Bleicherode, E-Werk Südharz.  
Obtl. Kurilo - Head of Werk III.  
Captain Schewtschuk - Kurilo's deputy.
3. German personnel until 22 October 1946 was as follows:  
Dipl. Ing. Helmut Gröttrup - General Director of the Zentral-Werk  
Dr. Coermann )  
Dr. Wilhelm ) Gröttrup's assistants  
Admin. Director Friedel )  
Technical Director Jaspar - Chief of Werk III  
Assistant Director Nerr - Jaspar's deputy  
Director Heldt )  
Director Völkert ) Purchasing chiefs  
Engineer Pflugk - Chief of Sales Department of the ZW  
Director Engineer Martin - Chief of the Berlin Information Center (Meldekopf Berlin)
4. Many scientists and technicians, who, because of Nazi Party membership, were held back in their original professions, came to the ZW and were immediately given leading positions. Enormous salaries were paid. Gröttrup's monthly salary was RM 4200; one of the directors' salary was RM 2000. Gröttrup received an estate of 100 Morgen as a present. The former owner was Kreis peasant leader Tumpke of Trebra. All the workers of the ZW receive heavy workers' ration cards, also an addition in the form of engineer rations which provides for 4 kilograms of meat every ten days. ZW has its own shoe and clothing store for its German workers.
5. On 21 October, the Russian staff invited all the leading personalities of the ZW to a party in the Cafe Japan in Bleicherode. All who were selected to go to Russia were escorted back to their houses in a drunken condition. There, Russian guards and

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trucks were already standing before the door. The Russian officer presented a work contract for Russia which the drunken Germans signed "voluntarily". The contract included a five-year job in Russia and stated that on crossing the border these Germans automatically became Russian citizens. At the same time loading of the trucks began. Escape was impossible. The guards did not allow those selected out of sight. All exits from Bleicherode were watched by Russian military personnel.

6. A special train stood ready in Werk III, Kleinbodungen. It was composed of seven passenger cars, twenty-six closed freight cars, and two platform cars. Eighty-four specialists and skilled workers were loaded with their families. Altogether there were 260 persons. The special train left Werk III on 23 October at five o'clock in the direction of Nordhausen. The long stop was explained by the fact that various family members were not in Bleicherode and had to be picked up by truck with all their belongings. If a person lived in a furnished apartment, the furniture was taken with him. Gröttrup lived with his family (wife and two small children) in a fully furnished villa whose owner was a man by the name of Stark from Bleicherode. The Russians loaded everything. The doors of the passenger cars were closed on one side with iron bars. Twenty-four closed freight cars were loaded with furniture and luggage and sealed. Two closed freight cars were loaded with food. Two platform cars were loaded with an armored car each. Frau Gröttrup was put in charge of food distribution. Shortly before the departure she distributed 300 cigarettes and an unusually large amount of food per person for the trip.
7. The persons selected to go to Russia were: General Director Gröttrup, Dr. Coermann, Dr. Wilhelmi, Director Jaspar, Assistant Director Nörr, Börgener (whose family was called in Dresden), Pauing, Jaffke (who had been wired to come to Bleicherode from Peenemünde), and Electrical Engineer Papst (who received an order from the MVD to report to the Institute Rabe in Bleicherode this summer while he was in his home in Dresden).
8. ZW had employed 5000 people, of which 700 were employed in Werk III, Kleinbodungen, alone. Before the deportation, all drawings and inventory lists were made out in duplicate. The light tracing section worked twelve hours daily. All documents were taken away by the TSK. The works are strictly guarded and Bleicherode is swarming with MVD.
9. The Russians have already approached various ZW workers who remained behind, this time with a two-year contract only. Nobody has signed "voluntarily". The Russians ordered the dismantling of the plant to be complete by 15 December 1946 and ZW engineers say that they will give RM 10,000 to whomever brings a highly qualified specialist aside from himself willing to go to Russia to work. It is of interest that on 30 October, exactly eight days after the deportation, notices appeared on all bulletin boards of the Zentral-Werk with roughly the following content:  
 "Our former comrades, with General Director Gröttrup at their head, have arrived in Moscow. They received a tremendous welcome and the women were given bouquets. The morale is excellent."  
 This notice was signed by Admin. Director Friedel, who is at present in charge of Zentral-Werk.
10. In Werk III, Kleinbodungen, before the deportation of the seventy-four specialists and skilled workers, V-2 units were assembled. On the railroad cars were put: command cars, sleepers, V-2 transport cars with firing ramps, oxygen tank cars, tank cars with spirit and water mixture (75% spirit, 25% water), fuel and Z-Stoff (?) tank cars; special cars were fitted with pumps and hoses and the testing and firing devices as well as the machine units 15KVA.
11. At present only dismantling work is in full progress. Director Heldt has been made technical head of this.

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